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optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, O_1 -C₆ alkyl, C_1 -C₆ alkoxy, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃, or -OH;

or a moiety of the formulae:

$$R_7$$
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_7

 R_6 is selected from H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, -C(O)CH₃, phenyl, -O-phenyl, benzyl, -O-benzyl, the phenyl and benzyl rings of these groups being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃, or -OH;

 R_7 is selected from -(CH₂)_n-COOH, -(CH₂)_n-N-(C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂, -(CH₂)_n-NH-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -CF₃, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, -NH-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -N-(C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂, pyridinyl, thienyl, furyl, pyrrolyl, quinolyl, (CH₂)_nphenyl, phenyl, -O-phenyl, benzyl, -O-benzyl, adamantyl, or morpholinyl, -(CH₂)_n-phenyl-O-phenyl, -(CH₂)_n-phenyl-CH₂-phenyl, -(CH₂)_n-phenyl-(O-CH₂-phenyl)₂, the rings of these groups being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, -NH₂, -NO₂, -CF₃,CO₂H, or -OH;

 R_2 is selected from H, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, -C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, -CHO, -CN, -NO₂, -NH₂, -NH-C₁-C₆ alkyl, -N(C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂, -N-SO₂-C₁-C₆ alkyl, or -SO₂-C₁-C₆ alkyl;

 R_3 is selected from H, CF_3 , C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, $-C_1$ - C_6 alkyl, $-C_3$ - C_{10} cycloalkyl, -CHO, halogen, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NH_2$ or a moiety of the formula – L^1 - M^1 :

L¹ indicates a linking or bridging group of the formulae -(CH₂)_n-, -S-, -O-,

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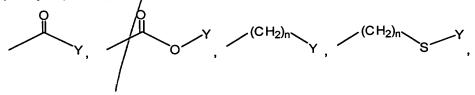
-C(O)-, $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)-$, $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)-(CH_2)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_n-$, or $-(CH_2)_n-S-(CH_2)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-S-(CH_2)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-S-(CH_2)_n-$

M¹ is selected from the group consisting of:

- a) H, C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, phenyl, and benzyl, the cycloalkyl, phenyl and benzyl rings being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, - NO_2 , - NH_2 , -CN, and - CF_3 , with the proviso that M^1 cannot be H when L^1 is -O-;
- b) a five-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two ring heteroatoms selected from N, S or O, the five-membered heterocyclic ring being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, or -CF₃;
- c) a six-membered heterocyclic ring containing one, two or three ring heteroatoms selected from N, S or O, the six-membered heterocyclic ring being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, CHO, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃ or -OH; and
- d) a bicyclic ring moiety containing from 8 to 10 ring atoms and optionally containing from 1 to 3 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S or O, the bicyclic ring moiety being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, -CHO, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃ or -OH;

 R_4 is selected from the group of C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, - $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, - $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, - $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, or the groups of:

a) $-(CH_2)_n$ -phenyl-O-phenyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phenyl-CH₂-phenyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -O-phenyl-CH₂-phenyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -phenyl-(O-CH₂-phenyl)₂, or a moiety of the formulae:



O Bid

$$(CH_2)_n$$
 $(CH_2)_n$ $(CH_2)_n$

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wherein n is independently selected in each appearance as an integer from 0 to 3, Y is C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl, napthyl, pyridinyl, quinolyl, furyl, thienyl or pyrrolyl; rings of these groups being optionally substituted by from 1 to \$\mathcal{Z}\$ substituents selected from H, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, -C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, -NH₂, -NO₂ or a five membered heterocyclic ring containing one heteroatom selected from N, S,/or O; or

a moiety of the formulae $-(CH_2)_n$ -A, $-(CH_2)_n$ -S-A, or $-(CH_2)_n$ -O-A, wherein A is b) the moiety:

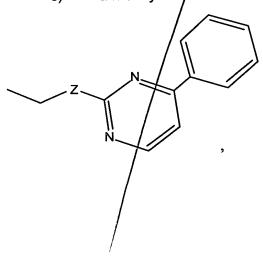
$$D$$
 B

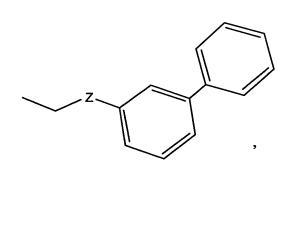
wherein

D is H, C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, $\not C_1$ - C_6 lower alkoxy, or - CF_3 ;

B and C are independently selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrrolyl groups, each optionally substituted by from 1 to 3, substituents selected from H, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, -C₁-C₆ alk/yI, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, or -NO₂; or

a moiety of the formulae: c)





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wherein Z is O or S and the phenyl and pyrimidinyl rings of each moiety are optionally and independently substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, $-CF_3$, -OH, $-C_1$ - C_6 alkoxy, $-NH_2$, or $-NO_2$; or

d) a moiety of the formula -L2-M2, wherein:

 L^2 indicates a linking or bridging group of the formulae -(CH₂)_n-, -S-, -O-, -SO₂-, -C(O)-, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)-(CH₂)_n-, -(CH₂)_n-O-(CH₂)_n-, or -(CH₂)_n-S-(CH₂)_n-, -C(O)C(O)X; where X = O, N

 M^2 is selected from the group of C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, phenyl or benzyl, the cycloalkyl, phenyl or benzyl rings being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, - NO_2 , - NH_2 , -CN, or - CF_3 ; or

i) a five-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two ring heteroatoms selected from N, S or O, the five-membered heterocyclic ring being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, or -CF₃; or

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ii) a six-membered heterocyclic ring containing one two or three ring heteroatoms selected from N, S or O, the six-membered heterocyclic ring being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_{10} alkyl, C_{10} alkoxy, - CHO, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃ or -OH; or



iii) a bicyclic ring moiety containing from 8 to 10 ring atoms and optionally containing from 1 to 3 ring heteroatoms selected from N, S or O, the bicyclic ring moiety being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, -CHO, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃ or -OH;

n is an integer from 0 to 3;

 R_5 is a moiety selected from the formulae $-L^3-M^3$

wherein L³ is a bridging or linking moiety selected from a chemical bond, $-(CH_2)_n$ -, -S-, -O-, $-SO_2$ -, -C(O)-, $-(CH_2)_n$ --C(O)-, $-(CH_2)_n$ -, $-(CH_2)_n$

M³ is

and n is an integer from 0 to 3

R₉ is selected from H, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, -COOH, -(CH₂)_n-COOH, -(CH₂)_n-COOH, -C₁/C₆ alkyl, -O-C₁-C₆ alkyl, -NH(C₁-C₆ alkyl), or -N(C₁-C₆ alkyl)₂; n is an integer from 0 to 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2 (Twice Amended). A compound of Claim 1 wherein:

 R_1 and R_1 are independently selected from H, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, -C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, -S-C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, -CN, -NO₂, -NH₂, -HN(C₁-C₆), -N(C₁-C₆)₂, phenyl, -O-phenyl, -S-

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phenyl, benzyl, -O-benzyl, or -S-benzyl, the phenyl and benzyl rings of these groups being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, -CF₃, or -OH;

 M^1 is selected from: H, C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, phenyl and benzyl, the cycloalkyl, phenyl and benzyl rings being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, -NO₂, -NH₂, -CN, and -CF₃, with the proviso that M^1 cannot be H when L^1 is -O-;

 R_4 is a moiety of the formulae -(CH_2)_n-A, -(CH_2)_n-S-A, or -(CH_2)_n-O-A, wherein A is the moiety:

DBC

wherein

D is H, C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, or - CF_3 ;

B and C are independently selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrrolyl groups, each optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from H, halogen, -CF₃, -OH, -C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, or -NO₂; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4 (Twice Amended). A compound of Claim 1 wherein:

 R_4 is selected from the group of C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, - $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, - $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, - $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, or the groups of:

a) a moiety of the formulae $-(CH_2)_n$ -A, $-(CH_2)_n$ -S-A, or $-(CH_2)_n$ -O-A, wherein A is the moiety:



wherein

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D is H, C₁-C₆ lower alkyl, C₁-C₆ lower alkoxy, or -CF₃;

B and C are independently selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrrolyl groups, each optionally substituted by from 1 to 3, substituents selected from H, halogen, $-CF_3$, -OH, $-C_1-C_6$ alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or $-NO_2$; or

b) a moiety of the formula $-L^2-M^2$, wherein L^2 and M^2 are as defined in claim 1; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5 (Twice Amended). A compound of Claim 1 wherein: $R_{1'}$ is H;

 R_4 is selected from the group of C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -S- $(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ - C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, or a moiety of the formulae $-(CH_2)_n$ -A, $-(CH_2)_n$ -A, or $-(CH_2)_n$ -A, wherein A is the moiety:

wherein

D is H, C₁-C₆ lower alkyl, C₁-C₆ lower alkoxy, or -CF₃;

B and C are independently selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrrolyl groups, each optionally substituted by from 1 to 3, substituents selected from H, halogen, $-CF_3$, -OH, $-C_1-C_6$ alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, or $-NO_2$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6 (Twice Amended). A compound of Claim 1 wherein:

 R_1 is selected from H, halogen, $-CF_3$, -OH, $-C_1-C_{10}$ alkyl, $-S-C_1-C_{10}$ alkyl, C_1-C_{10} alkoxy, -CN, $-NO_2$, $-NH_2$, $-HN(C_1-C_6)$, $-N(C_1-C_6)_2$, phenyl, -O-phenyl, -S-phenyl, benzyl, -O-benzyl, -S-benzyl, the phenyl and benzyl rings of these groups being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, $-NO_2$, $-NH_2$, -CN, $-CF_3$, or -OH;

or R_1 and $R_{1'}$ are independently a moiety of the formulae: or a moiety of the formulae:

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$$R_7$$
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_7

R₆ and R₇ are as defined in claim 1;

 R_3 is selected from H, -CF₃, C₁-C₆ lower alkyl, C₁-C₆ lower alkoxy, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, -C₁-C₆ alkyl, -C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, -CHO, halogen, (CH₂)_nC(O)NH₂ or a moiety of the formula – L¹-M¹:

 L^1 indicates a linking or bridging group of the formulae - $(CH_2)_n$ -, - $(CH_2)_n$ -C(O)-, - $(CH_2)_n$ -C(O)- $(CH_2)_n$ -, - $(CH_2)_n$ -O- $(CH_2)_n$ -, or - $(CH_2)_n$ -S- $(CH_2)_n$ -, C(O)C(O)X, - $(CH_2)_n$ -N- $(CH_2)_n$;

 M^1 is selected from H, the group of C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, phenyl or benzyl, the cycloalkyl, phenyl or benzyl rings being optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, - NO_2 , - NH_2 , -CN, or - CF_3 ;

 R_4 is selected from the group of C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, -(CH_2)_n- C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, -(CH_2)_n- C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, -(CH_2)_n- C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, or a moiety of the formulae -(CH_2)_n- C_3 - C_5 -

$$D \longrightarrow C$$

wherein

D is H, C_1 - C_6 lower alkyl, C_1 - C_6 lower alkoxy, or - CF_3 ;